The Middletown Transcript.

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Conference Edition

THE CONFERENCE

OPENS ITS TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION WEDNESDAY MORNING

IN BETHESDA M. E. CHURCH

Sacramental Service Conducted by Presiding Elder Barrett, of the Wilmington District—The Bishop Arrives in Time to Open the Business of the Conference—Naming the Committees—Resolutions of Sympathy—Other Notes.

The Wilmington Conference has brought to our midst many ministers during the week, and many strangers to our town who have never been here before.

The hospitality of our citizens' is praised on every hand.

The conference convened in Bethel Church, one of the first Methodist structures in the State, and whose history will be read by all with much interest.

BETHESDA CHURCH.

A Brief History of Methodism in Middletown.

Preaching in Middletown by the Methodist itinerants dates back to a very early period in the history of this great religious movement.

This town is by its geographical position, as related to adjacent points, where the first Methodist Evangelists worked with such success, made it a convenient place to tarry at least long enough to deliver the gospel message.

George Whitefield was in New Castle County as early as 1740, and preached with great eloquence and power before the comitig of Mr. Wesley's representatives. Captain Thomas Webb preached in Wilmington, New Castle and the forest of the Brandywine in 1769 and on a later date he went as far as Kent and Queen Ann's counties, in Maryland. John King and Richard Wright were in this territory in 1770 and 1771, the latter spent the winter of 1771 on Bohemia Manor. Francis Asbury came in 1772, he had charge of Baltimore circuit in 1773, this circuit included, beside five counties in Maryland, all that part of New Castle County lying south of Wilmington. Cecil circuit appears in the minutes in 1788, and then embraced all the territory east of the Susquehanna River, extending as far as Smyrna, taking in Thoroughfare Neck in Delaware, and Sassafras in Maryland.

The gradual development of a plan of visitation, and more general supervision of the work, found Middletown in the line of travel, going east and west, as well as on the main highway running north and south, on the Upper Peninsula.

In November 1789, Asbury says: "I preached at Duck Creek, I stopped and gave them a discourse at Middletown, and spent the evening with a worthy, kind friend." "November 21st, 1790 at Cecil Quarterly meeting held at Dickinson's, we had many people and some life." This extract from Asbury's journal, shows that this work on the east side of the lower part of New Castle County was within the bounds of Cecil circuit. In May 1791 the annual conference was held at Duck Creek. Sunday, 15th, two elders and three deacons were ordained. After the ordination I rode to Middletown, Delaware, and preached to a large congregation. Monday 16th, I rode to New Castle, and had the last interview with Dr. Coke."

On the 25th of July 1796, Asbury says: "I stopped at Middletown, Wilmington and Chester, on my way to Philadelphia.

The Hersey family, as is well known, figured prominently in the early period of Methodist history in this county. One of four brothers, Benjamin Hersey at the close of the last century lived at Noxentown Mills. He was a prominent member and class leader at Dickinson's. From the records of Cecil circuit we learn, the third Quarterly Conference was held in Thoroughfair Neck, February 9-10, 1800 Thomas Ware presided. The next year 1801, in the month of January, the Quarterly Conference was held at the same place. At this time a most wonderful revival of religion spread through all this section of country.

Asbury says under date of May 27th, 1801: "I preached at Dickinson's from Matt. 25, 46; after service rode home with Benjamin Hersey of Noxentown Mills, from this place I proceeded in great haste, through extreme heat, to Philadelphia, preached there Sunday and was present at the annual conference on Monday.

It is therefore evident that in the latter part of the last, and in the first years of the present century, Middletown was one of the appointments of Cecil circuit, and was frequently visited by Bishop Asbury, and other of the ministers of that period. It afterward belonged to Smyrna circuit, and at one time was an appointment in connection with New Castle, and probably was with Delaware City. In the minutes of Smyrna circuit, Quarterly Conference, under date of August 29, 1826, the next Quarterly Conference was appointed to be held in Middletown, and at the first Quarterly Conference of 1828, Middletown was apportioned $26 for preacher's salary having at that time 42 members.

In 1838 Middletown appears for the first time in the annual conference minutes, with Cantwell's Bridge. These two places reported 146 white and 52 colored members and $5.50 for superannuated preachers.

At the session of the Philadelphia Conference in 1859 Odessa and Middletown each became a separate charge, Rev. George Heacock became the pastor of the Middletown Church and remained two years.

The initiatory steps taken toward building a Methodist Church in Middletown was at a congregational meeting held February 13th, 1822. The following named persons were chosen as a Board of Trustees: Azariah Foster, Andrew Dill, Thomas Merritt and John Hayes. This body was legalized by an act of incorporation made in September of the above year, and recorded in book 7, vol. 3, page 113 at the Court House of New Castle County, with A. Foster as president of the board, Thomas Merritt, secretary and John Hayes, treasurer. A seal bearing the design of a dove with an olive branch was procured and used by this incorporation. The offer of a lot, on which to build a meeting house, was made to the trustees by John Hayes for fifty dollars, which offer was accepted and the deed for the same was passed and recorded in book 1, vol. 3, page 330 land records of New Castle County.

The contract for the building was let to John Fountain, for the sum of nine hundred dollars, the building to be finished, except painting, and the last payment for which was to be made May 14th, 1823. The contractor completed his work and placed it in the hands of the trustees April 11th. The work done by Fountain was perfectly satisfactory to the trustees and fifty three dollars for extra work was agreed to. In June the last payment was made and Fountain's receipt in ful was given.

In 1830, it was found that certain repairs were needed and after two years some work was done. In 1842 the growth of the Society seemed to require the enlargement of the church building, Rev. B. F. Price presided at the meeting, called to consider the reconstruction; David McKee, Garrett Cox and Benjamin Field, were the committee appointed to estimate the cost. Whether the amount needed, to do the work, placed an injunction upon further operation, or not, we do not know. In 1849 John Henry was preacher in charge. At a meeting held February 11th, it was determined to build a new house, forty-two feet by fifty feet, and the following building committee was appointed: Jesse Lake, Jonathan Catlin, Garrett Cox, Thomas E. Clayton, Joseph W. Gary, A. M. Vail and P. D. Riley, the latter being the chairman of the committee.

The contract for building was made with John Pierce, of Cecil County, for the sum of twenty-nine hundred dollars and the old building. The corner stone of this new house was laid by Rev. John A. Roche, Rev. Pennell Combe and Rev. Mr. Freize. The church was dedicated by George C. M. Roberts, of Baltimore, in 1850. This builing after having served the purposes of the congregation for thirty years, under the pastorate of Rev. T. E. Martindale, the church membership and congregation with great unanimity agreed to rebuild. In accordance with this purpose an estimate of $4000 was agreed upon and an effort made at once to secure subscriptions, and if a sufficient amout couldn be obtained to proceed at once with the improvement. In summing up it was found that $2,558.00 had been subscribed. The following building committee was appointed: J. M. Cox, Chairman; G. E. Hukill, Treasurer; M. D. Wilson and the pastor, T. E. Martindale. During the time the work was being done the congregation accepted the kind invitation of the Presbyterian church to worship with them, the pastors to preach alternately.

The work of enlarging and remodeling and otherwise beautifying the building added greatly to the appearance and comfort of this house of worship. Since this time the Church and Sunday School have enjoyed a degree of prosperity that makes it one of strongest and most desirable appointments in the Conference.

PASTORS.

1837–38	J. Cunningham.
1839–41	E. L. James.
1841–43	Benj. F. Price.
1843–44	T. B. Tibbles.
1844–45	Ig. T. Cooper.
1845–46	J. B. Hagany.
1846–48	J Cunningham.
1848–50	John Henry.
1850–52	J. R. Anderson.
1852–54	Joseph Aspril.
1854–56	R. H. Patterson.
1856–57	J. B. Maddox.
1857–59	J. B. Merritt.
1859–61	Geo. Haecock.
1861–63	T. W. Simpers.
1863–65	Alfred T. Scott.
1865–68	W H. Urie.
1868–71	H. Colclazer
1871–74	VaughanSmith.
1874–77	L C. Matlack.
1877–80	T.E. Martindale.
1880–83	W. L. S. Murray
1883–86	Adam Stengle.
1886–90	R. H. Adams.
1890–91	Alfred Smith.
1891–93	N. M. Browne.

OPENING DAY PROCEEDINGS.

Conference Gets Down to Work—The Standing Committees.

[From Wednesday's Daily.]

Bishop Merrill, who was to preside, was expected all day Tuesday, but was unable to get here until 9 o'clock Wednesday morning and then only in time to appear in the church at the opening of the conference.

Presiding Elder L. E. Barrett, of the Wilmington District officiated at the Sacramental Service, after which the Bishop took the chair and declared the conference ready to proceed to business.

Rev. A. S. Mowbray was elected secretary with W. A Wise, Z. Webster and J. D. Rigg assistants.

W. A. Mowbray was made Statistical secretary and had for his assistants Revs. Asbury Burke, W. W Sharpe, H. C. Turner, C. W. Strickland, G. P. Jones, F. B. Short, F. T. Carpenter and T. B. Cooper.

The conference then proceeded to name the

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Public Worship—The pastors of Middletown and Odessa and the Presiding Elder of the Easton District.

Education—J. Y. Dobbins, W L. S. Murray, W. E. Avery and O S. Walton.

Bible Society—J. Morris Lindale, R. T. Coursey, F. J. Cochran, F. B. Hunter.

Sunday Schools and Tracts—J. H. Howard, W. O. Hurst, G. W Bonner, E. E White, G. W. Bowman, W. B. Guthrie, G. P. Jones, E. S. Mace, Frank Fletcher.

Temperance and Prohibiton—C.S. Baker, T. E. Terry, F. C. McSorley and V. S. Collins.

Womans F. M Society—A. P. Prettyman, W. W. W. Wilson, W. W. Chairs, S. N. Pritchard.

Womans H M Society—T. A. H. O'Brien, T H. Haines, E H. Miller and W. E. Tompkinson.

Feedman's Aid and S E Society—J. T. Van Berkalow, E. H. Derrickson, W. G. Coons and H. C. Turner.

Missionary Statistics, Local Preachers and Postoffices—J. M. Mitchell, George E. Wood, G. S. Conoway and A. Bourke.

Sabbath Observance—I. L. Wood, R. Irving Watkins, G. W. Burke. H. W. Ewing.

Missions—The Presiding Elders.

Necessitous Cases—The Board of Stewards.

Periodicals—H. S. Thompson, E. P. Roberts, T. C. Simoot, D. H Corkran.

Church Extension—W. P. Compton, E. C. Atkins, S. M. Morgan, Jr., and Albert Chandler.

Epworth League—C. S. Wyatt, Isaac Jewell, R. K. Stevenson and A. Green

Stewards Endowment Fund—T. E. Martindale, J. A. Arters, Robert Watt, J. A. Sypherd and C. Grise.

Ministerial Qualifications—J. W. Easley, T. H. Hames, C. A. Hill, J. B. Quigg, Adam Stengle and Robert Todd.

Class Meetings—J. E. Martindale, C. W Prettyman, T. S. Williams, W. J. Duhadaway.

Committee on Camp Meetings—A. H. Davis, R. H. Adams, J. D. C Hanna, G. W. Townsend, J W Easley.

Committee on Transfers—E. L. Hubbard, J. H. Howard, W. W. W. Wilson, W. L. S. Murray

Reports of the presiding elders were then taken up.

DOVER DISTRICT.

Presiding Elder Barrett's First Report From That District.

Presiding Elder Barrett reported as follows:

Among the changes during the conference year in the Wilmington District were Rev. Walter E. Avery, of Mt Salem, who was transferred to Easton; Rev. C. H. Kershaw, a local preacher, who had been supplying East Lake and Edge Moor, resigned to attend Dickinson College, and was succeeded by Rev. J. D. Rigg, who was incapacitated by a severe attack of pneumonia, was obliged to relinquish his charge, and was succeeded by Rev Moses Bullock.

New churches and chapels erected at Elsmere, costing $3400; at Baldwins, $1200; Epworth charge, $26,000. Silverbrook, $20,000; Cookman, $5000; Harrison Street Church, $7000. A new parsonage will be built at Marshalton; the Christiana Church has been newly frescoed and repaired; Grace Church, Wilmington, greatly improved at a cost of $11,000; Wesley Church at Elk Neck, repairs costing $350; a new pipe organ was put into the Elkton church at a cost of $1100. Nearly all the churches and parsonages in this district have been improved more or less. The total cost of church buildings finished and those to be completed this year, foots up more than $50,000; estimated costs of contemplated buildings, $22,500; church improvements, nearly $20,000. Debts paid $3,500, making a grand total of nearly $100,000.

Resolutions of Sympathy.

Rev. J. D. Rigg offered the following resolution.

WHEREAS, This conference learns with great sorrow of the iliness of Bro. Alfred G. Cox our efficient Missionary Treasurer a greatly esteemed official member of this church, therefore

Resolved, That we extend to Bro. Cox in his tedious and painful sickness our sincere sympathies, and earnestly pray that it may please the Lord to grant him early restoration to health and to his respective posts of responsibility in his family, in the community and in church, and

Resolved, That Bros. Martindale, Mowbray, and Stengle be a committee to bear expressions of love to Bro. Coy.

Revs. T. E. Martindale, W. L. S. Murray and Adam Stengle were appointed to convey to Mr. Cox the love of the Conference.

The Book Concerns.

The report of the Book Concerns for the year was follows:

The net capital of the Eastern concern is $2,015,487.39—a gain of $24,869.13; of the Western, $2,214,746.77—a gain of $111,408.94 total net capital, $3,267,234.16. Total gain $136,278.07.

The sales of the Eastern House were $103,219.95, and of the Western $124,895.36. Total for the year $228,114.41—out of which were paid dividends, subsidies and expenses ordered by the General Conference.

The work of the Sunday schools have had their good results, and it is due to the 295,000 teachers in the Methodist Sunday Schools of the United States, that we have had good results. But the time has come for more and better educated teachers. The pastor and the Sunday school superintendents are happy in the knowledge that during the past conference year 128,000 conversions have occurred in the Sunday schools.

The speaker closed by explaining the work of the Sunday School Union.

A communication was read from the Episcopal committee, in which was stated the apportionment for the Wilmington Conference for the coming year was $1690.

Advertised Letters.

List of unclaimed letters at the Post office Middletown Delaware, for the week ending March 16, 1893:

George O. Shakspeare, James H. Shakspeare, Charles Hemsy, Joseph Johnson, Asbury Rochester, Enoch Young, Charles Hehl.

Persons calling for the above will please say they are advertised.

Alumni Banquet.

The Wilmington District Alumni Association of Dickinson College will hold its annual meeting and banquet at the National Hotel, on Monday, March 20th, meeting at 6 p. m., banquet 8 p. m.

Good Work at Forest.

As a result of the good work in the extra services at the Presbyterian Church five adults received the Sacrament of Baptism, and 34 united with the church on Sunday last, a source of great gratification to the pastor, Rev. F. H. Moore, who has labored so zealously and earnestly to bring about these results.

SOME EXCELLENT ADDRESSES

By Rev. Dr. Kynett on Church Extension and Temperance, Dr. Gray on the American University, Dr. Rittenhouse on the Methodist Hospital and Dr. Hurlburt on Sunday School Work.

[From Thursday's Daily.]

After devotional exercises the Bishop then introduced Rev. A. J. Kynett, D. D., Dr. Hurlburt and Dr. Gray.

Dr. Kynett, as one of the permanent committeemen on temperance, gave a brief report of the work of that committee, during which he paid a high tribute to the Standing Committee on Temperance of the Presbyterian Assembly. The speaker also referred to the work of the Board of Church Extension.

During his address Dr. Kynett stated that it would be the best thing thing to put the principles of the gospel into the law, and then make the law subservient to righteousness. He also spoke of the control of New Jersey by the gamblers and thought that a series of earthquakes should shake that State, and if that would do no good, that that State should be cast out of the Union.

Following Dr. Kynett, Rev. Dr. Rittenhouse, manager of the Methodist Hospital of Philadelphia, was introduced and spoke of the success of that institution since it was opened last year. There have been over 234 patients. In the dispensary over 1000 persons have been treated, and in the hospital more than 1300 patients have had medical assistance. The speaker gave a synopsis of what might be done to assist in this work.

He was followed by Dr. Gray, of the American University. The doctor is an eloquent speaker and prefaced his remarks by an amusing tale of a public speaker, which convulsed the assemblage in laughter. His address was devoted to the needs and successes of this great institution, and asked for increased donations to the University.

Dr. Gray, in closing his remarks, wanted 1000 ministers to each raise $100 for the erection of a new university building to be known as "Asbury Hall." One hundred dollars will entitle each preacher to a membership in the Universal League, for the promotion of hightr education in the American University of Wasington, D. C.

The Bishop then introduced Dr. Hurlburt, representing Sunday School work. In presenting his subject the speaker said the time had now come for a forward movement in the Sunday school. We need more efficient teachers, a curriculum of Bible study Our children are placed under the care of trained teachers during the week, and we cannot afford to place them on Sunday in the hands of untrained and ignorant teachers.

EASTON DISTRICT

Report of Presiding Elder Alfred Smith.

After passing upon Presiding Elder Smith's character, that gentleman proceeded with his report of the Easton District, as follows: "First of all I desire to thank God for his goodness and mercy to us in that life and health for the most part have been preserved, and heavenly breezes given by which we have been borne along safely and successfully to the end of another year's voyaging.

Only one of the ministers have died during the year, Brother Joseph L. Houston, a supernumerate of this conference and who had been in the itinerate harness more than 50 years. He died near Trappe, Talbot County, Md., September 18, 1892.

PLAN OF THE WORK.

The plan of the work has remained as fixed by the Bishop, except in a few cases. Dr. J. A. B. Wilson, of Easton, transiered to the New York Conference, was succeeded by Rev. Walter E. Avery, of Mt. Salem, and Rev. S. M. Morgan, of Hillsboro was sent to Mt. Salem; Joseph A. Brindle, a supernumerary, was put in charge of Hillsboro, temporarily, and the church is now supplied by Rev. O. W. Devenish. Piney Neck was cut off from Rock Hall circuit and made a separate charge, and is supplied by Rev. W. M. Listen, a local preacher.

The old Jumptown Church near Ridgley, Caroline County, Md., was resurrected in the early fall. It had been closed for the last 18 years. Rev. Joseph C. Brindle was put in charge. Since then a good Sunday school was organized, revival services have been held, and now again after their long sleep, they take their place in the line of march.

CHURCHES AND PARSONAGES.

Four new churches have been projected, viz: Cheswold, on Smyrna Circuit; Dulaney's, on Sassafras and Massey's Circuit; St. Paul's, on Cecilton Circuit, and Betterton, on Still Pond Circuit. The one at Cheswold cost $3359 and was dedicated 1892, free of debt. It is one of the most beautiful churches to be found anywhere. This is an entirely new church. The congregation formerly worshipped at Bethel, a grand old country church, a mile and a quarter away. She will start the new conference year with a membership of about 75 and a Sunday school of 100, and a preacher all their own.

The Dulaey Church cost $1000, all of which has been paid except $150. This church takes the place of the old one on a new site just across the road, and represents splendid self sacrifice on the part of the congregation.

The church at St. Paul's is not yet finished, and will cost between four and five thousand dollars. Already $3253 has been paid upon it. It will be finished and dedicated free of debt.

The church at Betterton will cost when completed $1000.

Improvements have been made upon the churches at King's Creek, Middletown, Oxford and Smyrna. At the latter place they cost $1000.

One new parsonage has been built in the district during the year—at Sudlersville, and cost $3500, upon which there is a debt of $1200. Again have Brother William Taylor and his wife showered their gifts upon the parsonage at Middletown, which, together with the generous gifts of the ite Society, makes the Middletown parsonage, with one exception, perhaps the most elegantly furnished preacher's home in the Conference.

The work of building, repairing and paying old debts on churches and parsonages has gone steadily on, and in these stringent times this showing represents splendid work for both preachers and people.

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

The increase in apportionments for pastor's salaries this year amounted in the aggregate to about $1000, and in most instances apportionments have been met In several places, however, we have had a serious falling off, which fact stronely emphasizes the necessity for an increase in our domestic mission fund, in order that the Presiding Elder might have wherewith to help deserving brethern in those places. The Easton District ought to have at the very least calculation $500 of Domestic mission funds for this purpose.

EPWORTH LEAGUES.

There are 17 chapters of the league, and a reported membership of 1125. This young society in many places is doing splendid work, and is full of promise for the future. New chapters have been organized at Tilghman's Island, Broad Creek and Middletown. The district organization is well officered with Rev. V. S. Collins at the head, and even better things may be looked for in the future.

TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION.

The larger portion of the Easton District is free from the blighting curse of the rum traffic through prohibitory legislation in the form of local option. Talbot District, however, is cursed with about a dozen saloons that swallow up about $40,000 worth of the material resources of the county.

THE BENEVOLENCES.

It looks as though the benevolences would not be in advance of last year. Missions will reach about $5000, and if the whole were paying per capita what we are, the missionary offering would reach $1,500,000. Our donation to this fund represents splendid self-sacrifice on the part of the members of the Easton district. We have been face to face with hard conditions—total failure of the peach crop, low prices for grain and an almost total failure of the oyster business.

REVIVALS.

No less than 1300 sheaves have been garnered during the year, of which 1100 have actually been received into the church. Last year there were reported 900 conversions and 800 probationers. This year an increase of 400 conversions and 300 probationers. Of this number iddletown reports about 160 conversions and 136 probationers.

DOVER DISTRICT.

Presiding Elder R. H. Adams Tells of His Accomplishments on This District.

Dover district holds on her way of aggressive evangelism, the aspersities which one year ago so seriously disturbed the church, have materially softened and grave apprehensions have given place to settled hopefulness, and but for a variety of local conditions at times seemingly insuperable, there would have been marked development throughout the district.

Drought affecting the cereal products in one section, the almost total destruction of the crop of various fruits in others, followed by a winter unequaled in severity for a quarter of a century, have been difficulties that challenged the best wisdom and energy of preachers and laymen to overcome.

The churches in Dorchester county have suffered immensely. The oyster having gradually supplanted the agricultural interests, and hundreds of families being solely dependent upon it, the closing of the oyster grounds by ice for six of the most lucrative weeks of the season, was to the oystermen an appalling disaster. Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars would not replace the losses sustained by Cambridge, Beckwith, Church Creek, Hooper's Island and Elliott's Island. To tranquilize the perturbed state of mind prevailing upon the district, readjust the relation of disaffected churches, and counterwork the effect of the season's without decline in any interest or retreat from any advanced position has been an arderous task.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE.

Thoroughly reorganized upon the district gives prominence of efficiency and usefulness. Chapters have been formed in most of our larger towns, and a few of the larger country churches. The young people are becoming interested in Bible study, the doctrines and history of the church and the duties of a Christian life.

AMONG THE APPOINTMENTS.

Beckwith parsonage debt has been cancelled, and Rev. W. F. Dawson has had much success, adding 40 probationers to the roll of the church at Speddins.

Bridgeville reports 25 probationers and improvements to the parsonage and a new church.

Rev. J. E. Graham reports 30 probationers and improved organizations of the several churches under his charge.

The Cambridge charge has discharged an indebtedness of $700 and reports 60 conversions.

Rev. P. H. Rawlins at Camdem closes his term of five years with the churches of the circuit in excellent condition. Rev. T. S. Williams has had a most successful pastorate. Rev C. W. Clapham has toiled day and night in a very hard field and succeeded in procuring financial aid and securing 91 conversions.

Rev. W. W. Chairs has been attending lectures at Maryland Medical University, and expects to graduate in April.

Wesley Church in Dover, under the charge of Dr. W. L. S. Murray was never in a better condition. The second church is on the tide of success Wisdom and patience were daily required to advantageously reconstruct and organize this society. The division growing out of previous misunderstandings, have been serious obstacles, overcome only by dispassionate entreaty.

Rev: R. E. Coursey has declined largely in the Harrington Church in its support of the benevolences, giving last year fully fifty per cent. more toward the collections than the amount reported this year; not even our worthy and needy claimant in an exception in this large decline. One church in Harrington has numbers, average wealth with business and social position, but lacks organization.

Milford has moved backward to the position of five years ago, reducing the pastor's salary to $1000 and the contributions to missions to $400, making a reduction of $200 in each.

Vienna Circuit, Rev. W. H. Benford, has not indicated growth in any department, if its position has been sustained.

Rev. W. E. England was by request appointed to fill the vacancy made in Seaford by the transfer of Rev. Clarence Wilson to Fort Smith. Here a parsonage debt has been paid and a small amount paid upon the indebtedness at Bladesville, but partly owing to the scarcity of money and more from the want of system, there has been a serious and needles decline in the collections.

Professor Gooding, of the Conference Academy, furnishes the following report:

Number of Students 1892–93	173
Conference Educational Beneficiaries	1
Board of Eduation	13
Values of Property	$80.000 00
Approximate Indebtedness	25,000 00
Receipts for board and tution	16.000 00
Expenditures	14,416 04
Net Receipts	2,047 31
Rental	683 10

And now, brethern, thrust unexpectedly into this official position, confronted by difficulties such as have not been the lot of any predecessor since the days of civil war, compelled by the exigencies of the situation to counsel and arbitrate where prejudice and passion had prevailed, to inspire with courage and steadfastness the despondent and faltering, to unite the alienated into a harmonious and Christly brotherhood, we bring our report.

Mid-Lent Services.

Services were held in the Episcopal Church this morning at 10:30 o'clock, with Holy Communion. Rev. G.W. Dame, of Smyrna officiated, and will also preach this afternoon at 3:30. The rector, Rev. J Beers, will preach this evening, on "Confirmation." His sermon for next Sunday will be on "The Christian Home."

MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Treasurer Alfred G. Cox's Report of the Finances of the Society.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT.

Bethel and Summit, $72.
Charlestown, $105.
Cherry Hill and Union, $180.
Chesapeake City, $70.
Chester, $110.
Christiana, $43.
Claymont, $45.
Delaware City, $100.
Elk Neck, $42.
Elkton's and Crouches, $320.
Hockessin and Ebenezer, $75.
Hopewell, $65.
Marshalton and Stanton, $70.
Mt. Lebanon and Union, $80.
Mt. Pleasant, $65.
Newark and Wesley, $130.
New Castle, $240.
Newport and Elsmere, $150.
North East, $140.
Port Deposit, $200.
Port Penn, $15.
Red Lion and Glasgow, $56.
Rising Sun and Selmar, $145.
Rowlandville and Mt. Pleasant, $25.
St George's $90.
Asbury, $1300.
Brandywine, $164.
Cookman, $30.
East Lake and Edgemoor, $33.
Epworth, $30.
Grace, $2495.
Harrison Street, $25.
Kingswood, $57.
Madely, $90.
Mt Salem, $400.
St Paul's, $760.
Scott, $275.
Silverbrook, $20.
Swedish Missions, $27.
Union, $600.
Wesley, $80.
Zion, $225.

EASTON DISTRICT.

Appoquinimink, $80.
Bayside, $31.
Cecilton and St Paul's, $185.
Centreville, $250.
Chestertown, $300.
Church Hill, $140.
Crumpton, $30.
Easton, $350
Galena and Locust Grove.
Greensboro, $100.
Hillsboro, $100.
Ingleside, $60.
Kent Island, $127.
Kenton, $40.
Kings Creek, $60.
Marydel, $60
Middletown, $500.
Millington, $87.
Odessa, $150.
Oxford, $80.
Piney Neck, $20.
Pomona, $80.
Queenstown, $80.
Rock Hall, $80.
Royal Oak, 12.
St. Michael's, 260.
Salem and Zion, 40.
Sassafras and Massey's, 40.
Smyrna, 640.
Smyrna Circuit, 222.
Still Pond, 160.
Sudlersville, 100.
Talbot, 25.
Tilghman, 60.
Townsend, 85.
Trappe, 30
Wye and Star, 80.
Special donation of W. Taylor, 200.

DOVER DISTRICT.

Bethwith and Speddens, $80.
Bridgeville, 112.
Bursville, 65
Cambridge, 250.
Camden, 100.
Cannon, 100
Church Creek, Madison and Taylor's, 50.
Craps, 180.
Denton, 175.
Dorchester, 30.
Dover, Wesley, 605.
Dover, Armory, 30.
East New Market, 80.
Ellendale, 50.
Elliott's Island, 25.
Farmington, 75.
Federalsburg, 140.
Felton, 75
Frederica, 175.
Galestown, 200.
Georgetown, 200.
Georgetown Circuit, 25.
Greenwood, 160.
Harrington, 100.
Hooper's Island, 25.
Houston, 160.
Hourlocks, 100.
Lakesville, 20.
Leipsic, 35.
Lewes, 250.
Lincoln, 75.
Little Creek and St. Jones, 75.
Magnolia, 60.
Milford, 402.
Milton, 155.
Nassau, 110.
Preston, 60.
Salem, 15.
Seaford and Bladesville, 110.
Vienna, 35.
Williamsburg, 71.
Williston, 90.
Woodside, 75.
Wyoming, 31.
Zoar, 8.

SALISBURY DISTRICT.

Annamessex, $55.
Asbury, 400.
Barren Creek, 2.
Berlin, 80.
Bethel, 65.
Bishopville, 100.
Cape Charles City, 30.
Chincoteague, 60.
Crisfield, 280.
Deal's Island, 300.
Delmar, 200.
Fairmount, 670.
Frankford, 135.
Fruitland, 45.
Girdle Tree, 110.
Gumboro, 75.
Holland's Island, 90.
Laurel, 243.
Millsboro, 86.
Mt. Pleasant, 25.
Mt. Vernon, 80.
Nanticoke, 150.
Newark, 50.
New Church and Hallwood, 13.
Onancock, 150.
Parksley, 28.
Parsonburg, 75.
Pocomoke Circuit, 35.
Pocomoke City, 100.
Powellsville, 40.
Princess Anne, 75.
Quantico, 63.
Quindocqua, 55.
Roxanna, 135
Reed's Wharf, 3.
St Peters, 310.
Salisbury, 320.
Selbyville, 50.
Sharptown, 50
Smith's Island, 240.
Snow Hill, 135.
Somerset, 105.
Stockton, 75.
Tangier, 386.
Westover, 25.
Whitesville, 140.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT.

Raised last year	$9,703 00
Raised this year	9,304 00
Decrease	$ 399 00

EASTON DISTRICT.

Raised this year	$5,099 00
Raised last year	5,044 00
Increase	$ 55 00

DOVER DISTRICT.

Raised last year	$5,641 00
Raised this year	4,906 00
Decrease	$ 735 00

SALISBURY DISTRICT.

Raised this year	$5899.00
Raised last year	5249.00
Increase	$650.00

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Total raised last year	$25,637
Total raised this year	25,008
Decreased	$629

A WARM DEBATE

OVER THE STANDARD OF QUALIFICATIONS

FOR CONFERENCE ADMISSION

A Close Vote on the Question, but the Memorial From Wesley Church, Dover, With Amyndments Goes Through—The Bishop Addresses the Candidates.

C. W. Prettyman led the devotional exercises at 8:30 o'clock.

At 9 o'clock the business session was opened with the usual preliminary exercises.

Vhe report of the committee on local deacons orders was read, and the following local preachers were recommended to this order: William Hamilton, John B. Roberts, Charles Norstrom, John B. Roberts, John P. Outter, William J. Tindale and Levin T. McLain.

The class of deacons desirous of becoming elders is composed of Mark E. Bowman, H. C. Turner, Edwin Gardner, F. B. Short, Joseph H. Geohegan, George P. Jones and Elmer E. Cross.

Bishop Merrill, before proceeding to propound the questions to the class, summoned them before the chancel rail, where he gave them some wholesome advice as to what was expected of them at this examination

When the questions and answers were given received, the candidates were returned to their seats, and the Bishop proceeded to explain what was meant by "Christian Perfection."

Bishop Merrill stated that as this was about the only time the Bishop had a chance to make a speech, and it would be very tiresome for the candidates to stand while he would take advantage of the opportunity they might be seated.

And it was a much desired opportunity on the part of the conference, as the Bishop had made no speech at any of the previous sessions.

His remarks were solely given to the duty and the work of the preachers and reviewing the questions propounded to the class. It was an able talk, plain and simple; free from that gushing style that marks many public speakers. What the bishop said contained so much good advice that it cannot fail to bear good fruit.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial from Wesley Church, Dover, asking to fix a standard of qualification for admission into the ministry made their report which elicited considerable debate.

The committee's report favored the memorial and resolutions were adopted to that effect.

Mr. Price moved an amendment, but as there was no second the question was put and the resolution was passed.

During the taking of the vote, Rev. J. D. C. Hanna attempted to speak, but not being seen the resolution was carried.

A reconsideration of the resolution was asked for, but the bishop allowed the floor to Mr. Hanna.

Rev. Collins, as a committeeman on the admission to the class of the first year, gave some very amusing answers to questions of geography and history that had been received at the examinations.

Rev. Bowen thought the resolutions should be abolished as it would be an injustice to the conference.

Rev. England thought it "extra-judicial," and was not in favor of it. Rev. England did not think it was necessary to reflect on the work of the general conference. Rev Carkran was opposed to it if it went into effect this year, but if not until next year he was heartily in favor it. As he thought every one should measure up to the qualifications.

Elder Adams thought the resolution was to impress the young men. Let the young men have their wisdom to get an education. Don't let them in until they are prepared.

Professor Gooding was given the floor to give a little information on the subject. He thought we owed the young men a stern duty. That they should feel that they were thoroughly prepared.

Vonburkalow was in hearty sympathy with the movement. "But," said he, "if it had been applied to our class of 29 when I was admitted not half a dozen would have passed." Some one in the conference in sotto voice replied: "What a mercy it would have been," which created great laughter in the house. But it was well received by the speaker, and he said he did not doubt it might have been.

Dr. Hamilton, of New York, was introduced and addressed the conference on the care of its old and infirm preachers.

Chairman Grise of the committee on Endowment Fund, presented the following report; which was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock Monday morning.

ENDOWMENT FUND.

Your committee recommend that the veteran cause be made the great object of appeal during the coming year.

That a secretary shall be appointed to secure pledges to the Endowment Fund, the principal of which may be paid at the option of the subscriber, but the interest of which shall be expected annually.

And that we pledge such secretary our ready co-operation.

We would also recommend the adoption of the following plan for celebrating and distributing our annual fund.

Each congregation shall observe a Sunday to be known as Veteran's Day, upon which the pastors shall present this cause to the member of the church, and emphasize their obligations to the conference claimants. A collection shall be taken in the public congregation for the support of conference claimants separate from any other interest.

All moneys received for annual distribution in aid of the support of Conference claimants shall be divided in two sums; the first, consisting of 75 per cent. of the whole, shall be called the annuity fund; the second, consisting of 25 per cent. of the whole shall be called the Necessitous Fund All Superanuated ministers, the widows and children under fifteen years of age of deceased ministers shall be conference claimants unless the claim be voluntarily relinquished.

The Annuity Fund shall be divided among the conference claimants upon the following basis. Each minister shall receive annually ten dollars for each year of his effective service; each widow shall receive one-half of her husband's claim; each child shall receive one-fifth of its father's claim. These claims shall be paid pro rata from the money in hand.

The Necessitous Fund shall be divided among the claimants, whether superannuates, widows or children, whose annuities are insufficient for their needs in such proportions as the Board of Conference Stewards may deem equitable.

The gross allowance to each claimant from the above funds shall be reported to and approved by the annual conference.

WHEREAS, the carrying out of this plan will require an increased income for the support of Conference claimants, therefore,

Resolved, That each member of the conference, except those who are superannuated, will be expected to contribute at least five dollars annually to the Endowment Fund.

After the appointments for Sunday had been made the conference adjourned.

Bishop Merrill will preach in the church in the morning, and ordination services will be held at 2 o'clock, p. m, and a temperance meeting will be held in the hall at 3 o'clock, p. m.

EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The Anniversary Exercises at the Opera House Last Night.

The anniversary of the Epworth League, the last born child of Methodism, was held in the Opera House last evening. The meeting was full of enthusiasm, the audience large and appreciative, for, in spite of the inclement weather, the house was packed. Rev. R. K. Stevenson presided. Before the regular exercises there was a short song service by the Middletown Chapter, lead by Dr. T. E. Martindale assisted by several other ministers. Besides the choruses which were all stirring and well sung, there were solos by Mrs. M. A. Bowman and Rev. T. E. Terry, and a duett by Mrs. Bowman and Dr. Martindale.

After the opening prayer by Rev. T. E. Terry and a short address by Rev. V. S. Collins, the speaker of the evening was introduced, Dr. D. A. Jordan, of the 6th Avenue M. E. Church, of Brooklyn. His theme was "The Epworthian of the 20th Century" and his address was a masterpiece. In the most earnest, forcible and burning words he portrayed the future, not as a fanciful or impossible dream of an enthusiast, but as the natural product of the church, vigorous with consecrated youth, as seen and felt by one who is in close sympathy and touch with young people. The onward march of the church is most plainly seen to-day in the Epworth League movement, which is the Young People's Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This society is destined to be one of the great factors in developing the well-rounded Christian youth, and proves how false is "that wicked old chestnut," that Christian young people can have no fun. Dr. Jordan's picture of the league of the coming century, could but stir the heart of every young person who heard him, and quicken an impulse for better living, better thinking and better doing than ever

A BRIDAL MEASURE.

Gifts they sent her manifold,
Diamonds and pearls and gold.
One there was among the throng
Had not Midas' touch at need.
He against a sylvan reed
Set his lips, and breathed a song:

Bid bright Flora, as she comes,
Snatch a spray of orange blooms
For a maiden's hair.

Let the hours their aprons fill
With mignonette and daffodil
And all that's fair.

For her bosom fetch the rose
That is rarest;
Not that either these or those
Could by any happening be
Ornaments to such as she;
They'll but show, when she is dressed,
She is fairer than the fairest,
And out betters what is best!
—Thomas Bailey Aldrich in Century.

An English State Secret.

I hope that the revelation I am about to make may be considered as strictly confidential. It must not be told across the Atlantic. It is one of those secrets which one learns with shame and repeats in a whisper. It refers, in fact, to the venerable house of lords. It has to do with a thing which greatly adds to what the peerage calls the enjoyment of a title. It is a secret of the vestiarium, or robing room. It is nothing less than the long and carefully concealed truth about the coronet. You know that it is a crimson velvet cap, very soft and pretty and comfortable, round which is the gold coronet set with pearls. Now, a coronet is just a broad circular band, as everybody knows.

The iron crown of Lombardy is such a band of gold set with great rubies roughly cut, and without any palliative of velvet. With the bare crown stuck firmly on his head there he was—a king, just as with his wig adjusted on his head there is the other man—a lord chief justice. Very well then. The peer's coronet is not of gold at all I am assured, by one who knows, that it is of copper gilt, and that the pearls in it are not pearls, but silver things as big as pigeons' eggs. One more illusion is gone. We shall learn next that the velvet is cotton velvet or sateen or soft merino, or even red flannel. Only copper gilt! Is it possible?—Walter Besant in London Queen.

To Help Out Weak Drivers.

A veteran horseman, whose observations of driving about the city cover nearly half a century, has undertaken to relieve the distress which the sight of a bit pulling horse causes him by an invention that he means to share with his suffering drivers free of royalty charges. So far as he knows, all devices intended to prevent a willful horse from taking the bits in its teeth are means of torture, cutting the horse's mouth or otherwise causing pain. This is needless, he thinks, as well as cruel, and no one who enjoys driving and loves horses can approve of any such punishment. His device is quite as effective, he thinks, and not at all painful. By its use, when a horse begins its capers, the device is so connected with the bit that it pulls at the horse's tail, which receives the strain now imposed on the driver. As the pulling becomes harder the horse simply tugs at the roots of its own tail. The inventor has tried the apparatus and says he has never driven a horse that was not at once broken of the pulling habit by it.—New York Times.

He Knew Where to Put It.

There was a little dancing affair at a good man's house the other evening on Cass avenue, given by the daughters, the old folks being absent. As a refreshment the girls had quietly introduced a little claret punch, and a reporter, who was a guest, was devoting some of his spare time to it.

"Goodness me," exclaimed one of the young ladies. "I don't know what ever papa would say if he found out we had claret punch. You mustn't let it get in the paper," she begged of him.

The reporter bowed, with courtly grace, over his glass.

"My dear Miss Ethel," he said, "don't be alarmed. I shall not waste it by putting it in the paper," and he filled his glass again. —Detroit Free Press.

Telling Sex by Movements.

Observant and farsighted persons distinguish at great distances a man from a woman, not by dress, face or figure, but by movements. The motions of the most graceful of men are ungainly when compared with the sinuous lines that most women instinctively assume. It often happens that a single motion of a distant figure, and especially a motion of the arms above the head, will instantly determine for a trained observer the sex of the person. If any one doubts this, let him note the awkward, windmill like performance of a man arranging his hair, and the graceful curves and deft touches with which a woman accompanies the same thing.—New York Sun.

He Never Told.

Little Jim was sent into the parlor to entertain his sister's best young man. He made quite a success of it. His first question was:

"Can you stand on your head?"

After the young man admitted that he couldn't, Jim proceeded to demonstrate his proficiency in that line.

"That's good," said the young man "Who taught you how?"

"Sister told me never to tell."—London Tit-Bits.

A Cat Exterminator.

An ingenious Brooklynite has come out with an invention which bids fair to relegate the bootjack to the attic with the distaff and spinning wheel. He has run a wire along his back fence. To this is attached a strong electric battery. A button at the inventor's bedside sends forked lightning through the wire, and the current is turned on when the cats begin their midnight parleyings. One wild feline screech, and all is over.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

The handsomest billiard table ever made in this country was for Paul, who is an enthusiastic lover of billiards and plays a good game. It cost $3,000 and is now at Craig-y-Nos, her castle in Wales.

Mythologists will tell you that in all countries where precious stones are found remarkable legends and curious myths are always related by the natives to account for the origin of the gems.

Frost and snow are white because of the smallness of their particles and the great number of their reflecting surfaces. All the light being reflected, they can be only of this color.

The flavor of asparagus is due to aspartic acid, and that of the cucumber from a peculiar poisonous ingredient called fungin, and which is found in many species of fungi.

A single sheet of paper 6 feet wide and 7¾ miles long is said to have been made by the paper works in Watertown, N. Y. It weighs 2,207 pounds.

Ex-President Hayes' Last Interview.

Only a few weeks before his death, ex-President Hayes told a western interviewer that he had turned over to his sons all his business matters. "For instance," said he, "I intend to make a trip to Baltimore tomorrow, and in the morning, just before I start, I will get down to the bank and ask Rud for some money. I will probably say to him, 'Rud, I am going to Baltimore, and I think I had better have about $300 for the trip.' And, just as like as not, Rud will answer, 'Father, that's too much; I don't think you need more than $150.' And I suppose I will take it. That's the way I used to do with him, and that's the way he does with me now."—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Reply of Bishop Brooks.

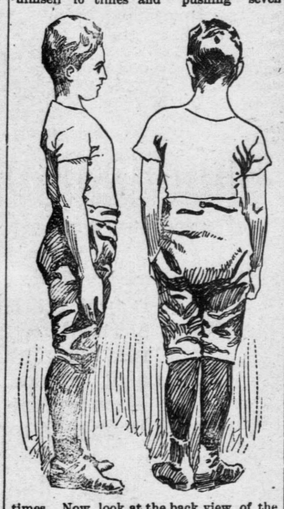
The late Bishop Phillips Brooks denied a great many of the good stories that were told of him, but one whispered around among the clergy lacked the bishop's denial. He was to confirm a class in a highly ritualistic parish, and the rector, an old friend of the bishop's and well acquainted with the latter's broad church views, wrote to say that as there might be some features of the service which Bishop Brooks would disapprove any such would be omitted if he would be kind enough to indicate them. The bishop's reply to this communication is said to have been a note which ran about thus: "Dear ——: Turn it all on."—New York Sun.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

One Defect.

Dr. W. G. Anderson of Yale university gymnasium is an enthusiast on the physical training of boys by gymnastic exercise and has given considerable attention to the various methods employed. The accompanying illustration is taken from an article written by Dr. Anderson, and together with the comments thereon will prove interesting to boy readers and will serve as well to warn them against a very bad habit.

This lad's side view is quite satisfactory. The chest is full and prominent, and the body erect. He is the "champion" all round gymnast of his class and has the following first records: Broad jumping, pole climbing (16-foot ceiling, 10 seconds), rope climbing (same height, 7⅘ seconds), "chinning" himself 16 times and "pushing" seven



times. Now, look at the back view of the same boy and see how a beautiful figure can be deformed by resting the weight on one leg. As he is young he can easily be cured, one way being to make him stand properly. In the picture both legs are straight, but see how the right shoulder hangs down.

The measurements of this boy are: Height, 55½ inches; chest, 25, 29, 31 inches; expanse, 6 inches. This is wonderful, but the little chap has caught the "knack" of it. He can throw the chest way in, and one would think he was dying of consumption when he exhales. His right forearm is 8⅝ inches, right upper arm, 10¼ inches; waist, 26 inches; right calf, 12½ inches; right thigh, 17⅛ inches. The left arm is a little smaller than the right. He is 13 years. This lad belongs to one of the best boys' schools in New York city. They have regular class work in the gymnasium. The records spoken of are such as can be safely made without bad results or interference with lessons.

Training of Turkish Boys.

Little Turks are trained to be soldiers every inch of them. A little Turk eats what ever is given him, obeys without a murmur, works like a horse at whatever task is set before him, walks till he drops down, draws water for his own food, cuts his own wood, takes care of his own horse and sleeps on the ground without even giving the smallest sign of impatience. He is even taught to do this without moving a muscle of his face to show that he does not like such hard work. What about the little boys in civilized countries who pout because they have to go on errands and who refuse to eat porridge for breakfast?—Kansas City Times.

A Problem For Science.

Little Boy—I wish I was a great philosopher, like you.

Great Scientist—And why, my son?

"'Cause you know everything, an' there's some things I can't understand, but if I was like you I could."

"Tell me one of them."

"Well, for one thing, I'd like to know why photographers can take pictures of comets, an' meteors, an' flyin cannon balls, an lightning flashes, and yet they can't photograph a boy without most squashin his head in a pair of pinchers."—Good News.

Names of Japanese Girls.

Many of those pretty and suggestive little words that serve as names for Japanese girls are as charming in English as in Japanese, for it is not uncommon for a Japan girl to bear the name of a flower. On the other hand, however, many girls in Japan bear the name of some homely domestic utensil, as frying pan or dustbrush. Don't less this results from the custom common among some people of naming a child for the first object that strikes the father's eye after the little one has come into the world —New York Sun.

A Wire "Punch."

Children will find great amusement in constructing the figure of "Punch" seated in a chair, as shown in the illustration. It must be made out of a single piece of wire Try it.

Astonishing News.

Out on the doorstep the windiest morning,
Bright hair for the little heads only adorning
His eyes ablaze with excitement and joy
The wee little will-o'-the-wisp of a boy!
I was going by as straight as you choose
When he hailed me with this astonishing news
"Oh, sir, did you hear 'bout our baby up stairs
A'thout any teeth and just two or free hairs?
Her eyes are shut up so you can't look fro
But I opened one, and that was blue.
She's only just Her till we name her a name.
'Cause, don't you see, mister, she's only just came?
She's most too teenty to tickle and touch.
But I appreciate her very much.
Her nose is pug—but it might be pugger;
If you'll scuse me now. I'll go in and hug her."

"We have a dog that likes music," said a little girl to a new companion. "When mamma sings, he wants to sing, too, and howls so that you can hear him all over the neighborhood."

"But if he likes it why doesn't he keep still and listen to it?" asked the other.

"Oh, he's such a naturally enthusiastic dog that he can't ever keep still!"

Most dogs and some other animals have this sort of "enthusiasm" over music, especially if it is sung or played in a high key. Dogs find a very vocalizing effect in hand organs. They are often seen seated at the side of a hand organ player, howling at the tops of their voices.

It is supposed that they must like the music since otherwise they would take to their heels at the approach of a hand organ, instead of sitting down comfortably beside it to howl.

There is a collie dog near Boston which is certainly fond of "singing." The word "sing" sends him instantly to his mistress' knees, and with a little encouragement from her he "sings" high and low, "trills" with a singular wavering, gurgling utterance, and "comes down the scale" in a somewhat abrupt but very amusing manner.

His delight at being asked to sing is very great. He complies without the expectation of any other reward than a few strokes upon the head and goes beaming and whisking around the room after every performance in pursuit of commendation.—Youth's Companion.

Whittier's Spirituality.

Spiritualism, as it is called in our day, was a subject which earnestly and steadily held Whittier's attention. There are many passages in his letters on this question which state his own mental position very clearly. "I have had as good a chance to see a ghost," he once said, "as anybody ever had, but not the slightest sign ever came to me. I do not doubt what others tell me, but I sometimes wonder over my own incapacity. I should like to see some dear ghost walk in and sit down by me when I am here alone. The doings of the old witch days have never been explained, and as we are so soon to be transferred to another state, how natural it appears that some of us should have glimpses of it here."

As the end of his life drew near, it was easy to see that the village home where his mother and sister lived and died was the place he chiefly loved, but he was more inaccessible to his friends in Amesbury, and the interruptions of a few grasping factory town were sometimes less agreeable to him than the country life at Oak Knoll. Once only he expresses this preference for the dear old village home in one of his letters: "I have been at Amesbury for a fortnight. Somehow I seem nearer to my mother and sister; the very walls of the room seem to have become sensitive to the photographs of unseen presences."—Annie Fields in Harper's.

In English Workhouses.

It was the great reproach against the English workhouse in old times that husband and wife, even in advanced age, were separated, and the touching wish embodied in "John Anderson, My Jo," could not be carried out. But as a matter of fact it now appears that the wish itself is wanting. "I've looked after he for 40 year," says an ancient dame, "and I've had enough of it," and "I came in here on purpose to get out of the reach of the old gal's tongue," retorts the husband. Only a few couples still care for one another's society, we are told.—San Francisco Argonaut.

In a Bad Box.

A female candidate for Mayor of Kansas City, Kan., says she doesn't know whether her husband will vote for her or not. That husband is in a pretty tough box. If his vote should elect her he would practically lose his wife. On the other hand, Kansas not having a secret ballot, if his vote should defeat her he will probably soon have cause to wish he had lost his wife. Perhaps the easiest way out for him is to steal a horse and be disfranchised.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

You never know when you are going to take cold. So slight a thing as a change in the electrical condition of the atmosphere is sufficient to cause delicate people to contract a cold. Such persons should never be without Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, the infallible cough-cure, to cut short the dangerous malady at the outset.

There's this about it, that if there had been more dirt flung when the Panama Canal was started there'd be less mud-flinging now.—Philadelphia Times.

Queer world! Queer people! Here are men and men by thousands suffering from all sorts of diseases, bearing all manners of pain, spending their all on physicians and "getting no better, but rather worse," when right at hand there's a remedy which says it can help them because it's helped thousands like them. "Another patent medicine advertisement," you say. Yes—but not of the ordinary sort. The medicine is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and it's different from the ordinary nostrums in this:—

It does what it claims to do, *or it costs you nothing.*

The way is this: You pay your druggist $1.00 for a bottle. You read the directions, and you follow them. You get better or you don't. If you do, you buy another bottle, and perhaps another. If you don't get better, you get your money back. And the queer thing is that so many people are willing to be sick when the remedy's so near at hand.

There are undubitable signs of spring in front of the beer saloons. It will be a backward as well as a backward spring —Boston Transcript.

Rich, Red Blood

As naturally results from taking Hood's Sarsaparilla as personal cleanliness results from free use of soap and water. This great purifier thoroughly expels scrofula, salt rheum and all other impurities and builds up every organ of the body. Now is the time to take it.

The highest praise has been won by HOOD'S PILLS for their easy, yet efficient action. Sold by all druggists. Price 25 cents.

"All I Ask Is a Single Heart" is the plaintive title used by a poet who probably had the other three aces.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Acrobats, whose feats of leaping and vaulting so interest the crowd and charm the children at the circus, ought to take from town to town a supply of Salvation Oil. They will find it a first-class liniment, just the thing they need for soreness of the muscles occasioned by too violent exercise, for stiffness in the back and neck, or for any abnormal strain which they may be subjected to. Price 25 cents.

For Lenten Light.

A young woman with extreme ideas in regard to Lenten observances has her bedroom candlestick of dark gray Wedgwood ware. The candle is of violet colored wax and the shade of the same penitential hue.

That cure of Geo. W. Terner, of Galway, N. Y., of scrofula, by Hood's Sarsaparilla, was one of the most remarkable on record.

Why She Wanted Him.

Amy—What made you fall in love with Mr. Hillow?

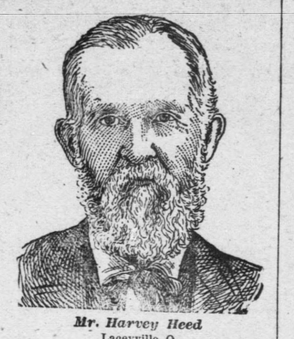
Mabel—Well, I heard he was engaged to Sue Gasket.—Judge.

Just What he Wanted.

Prospective Father-in-Law. — Oh, what is that wedding-check ink, young lady?

Young Lady—Why, that's a new patent. You write a check at night, present it to the bride, and it fades out in daylight.

Prospective Father-in-Law—Ah, give me three bottles.—Judge.



Mr. Harvey Heed
Laceyville, O.

Catarrh, Heart Failure, Paralysis of the Throat

"I Thank God and Hood's Sarsaparilla for Perfect Health."

"Gentlemen: For the benefit of suffering humanity I wish to state a few facts: For several years I have suffered from catarrh and heart failure, getting so bad I could not work and

Could Scarcely Walk

I had a very bad spell of paralysis of the throat some time ago. My throat seemed closed and **I could not swallow.** The doctors said it was caused by heart failure, and gave medicine, which I took according to directions, but it did not seem to do me any good. My wife urged me to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, telling me of Mr. Joseph C. Smith, who had been

At Death's Door

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Lot 48 C—75 men's business suits,	17 00	17 00
Lot 55 C—80 men's business suits,	16 00	14 00
Lot 218 A—50 youths' overcoats,	15 00	13 00
Lot 325 X—60 youths' overcoats,	14 00	11 00
Lot 1107—Children's overcoats,	10 00	8 00
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